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a center of influence for righteousness and justice, whose value cannot be estimated in terms of dollars, was built for a little over half the cost of one battleship, and is maintained for three-fourths the cost of keeping a battleship afloat. The price of two battleships is only one million dollars less than the estimated cost of making the proposed six-foot channel in the Mississippi river from St. Paul to the mouth of the Missouri river. We could build fifty manual training schools and equip them with necessary tools and appliances for the teaching of 75,000 young people each year with the cost of one battleship.

The increased cost of the navy referred to above is three times the estimated cost of replanting 50,000,000 acres of denuded lands in the United States. That eight years' increase was \$60 for every family in the United States. It is three times the cost of carrying out the whole irrigation program contemplated within a generation. The cost of one battleship would build a macadam road of approved construction between Chicago and New York.

The United States ship *North Dakota* cost \$12,000,000 and \$800,000 a year for twenty years' upkeep. This would suffice to build 2,800 churches at \$10,000 each.

Is it not time that we, here in Nebraska, recognize the facts, and do our part in arousing public sentiment to a recognition of the wickedness and folly of this frightful cost for the preparation for war? We call ourselves a Christian nation. Many of us profess to be followers of the Prince of Peace. If we are, can we let pass without protest the spending of more than two-thirds of our annual income for preparation for killing our fellow-men?

Book Notices.

THE NEW CYNEAS OF ÉMERIC CRUCÉ. By Thomas Willing Balch. 363 pages, large octavo, handsomely printed on fine paper. Philadelphia: Allen, Lane and Scott.

This work is a recast and great enlargement of Mr. Balch's first work on Émeric Crucé, which was published in 1900 (69 octavo pages) and is no longer in print. In an introduction of 30 pages the author gives a history of the *Nouveau Cynée*, which was first published in 1623, of the two copies which remain of the first and second editions, of the rediscovery of the true name of the author, Émeric Crucé, and also the few facts known about him. In the introduction, Mr. Balch also interprets the meaning of Crucé's work, and discusses his plan for the formation of an International Assembly of Ambassadors and Princes to maintain the peace of Europe. This plan is most interesting as being the first attempt to devise an international assembly or tribunal for the adjustment of disputes among nations. Mr. Balch's treatment of the subject is full, instructive, and most interesting, and all students of the history of international arbitration ought to have the work within easy reach. The chief characteristic of this edition of Balch's work is the inclusion in it of the original French text of the *Nouveau Cynée*, accompanied by a translation into English directly from the old text. Considering the difficulties of the old French and the imperfec-

tions and obscurities of the text, the translation is probably as perfect as could well be made, and puts the *Nouveau Cynée* at last in the possession of all English-speaking international scholars. The page numbers of the old text are noted on the margin of the French reprint. No library of international arbitration and peace books can afford to be without this scholarly work.

THE IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT ISRAELS. By Frank Barkley Copley. 124 pages. Illustrated. Price, \$1.00. New York: The Macmillan Company.

It is rare that so much sound philosophy and good sense are packed into such small compass as in this booklet. David Israels, an imaginary President of the United States, makes the experiment of trying to put the Golden Rule into actual effect in his dealings with other countries. A crisis arises with Germany. The people are inflamed, and clamor for war. President Israels insists that Germany shall not be misinterpreted; expresses his conviction that she will do what is just when she is apprised of all the facts, and in evidence of his faith sends the United States fleet away on a peace mission to Turkey. He is impeached by an angry Congress, and as a result of the strain and the effort made before the Senate in his own defense he collapses, and finally dies—but saves the country from war with Germany. A 15-cent edition of the story ought to be published and circulated by the million.

BETWEEN TWO THIEVES. By Richard Dehan. 687 pages. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Co.

One of the strong peace books of the year, though probably historical in intent, is Richard Dehan's "Between Two Thieves."

An elaborately developed main plot gives the reader an understanding of the military situation in France before the Crimean War, and of the venomous hatred of Napoleon III toward England. Under the spur of this hatred Napoleon employs Dunoisse, a brilliant young military officer, to perform a secret service for him. The young man is sent to make a minute sanitary survey of that part of eastern Europe likely soon to become the scene of war. He is also empowered to engage all sorts of military supplies on the ground, and to secure solemn oaths from the Orientals that they will on no condition sell supplies or give shelter to the English. Thus, when the Crimean War breaks out, France, using her sanitary maps, locates camps in the most salubrious localities, and finds stores and provisions ready to her hand. Her ally, England, however, forced to depend upon provisions from home, finds herself robbed from another quarter.

Two sub-plots, recalling Dickens in the fine detail with which they are drawn, reveal the callous greed of the English army contractor. Leaky ships, tainted provisions, moldy hay, and short weight everywhere, prove as disastrous to the English as do the Russian guns.

There follows a strikingly vivid description of the war—in all its horrors—a description which in itself is a plea for peace. In the darkest spots moves Florence Nightingale, thinly disguised as Ada Murling, shedding an aureole of hope about the picture. For love of her, and in penance for the unconscious wrong he did her country, Dunoisse, though wrecked in health, spends the remainder of his life and his vast fortune in pro-